(c) The Government of India have enacted the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act (SICA) 1985 and established the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) with a view to arranging the timely detection of sick and potentially sick companies and for the speedy determination by a Board of Experts (BIFR) of the preventive, ameliorative, remedial and other measures which need to be taken in respect of such mills.

No. of Textile Mills registered with BIFR as on 31.1.97 in the State of Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh are respectively 17 (including 11 cotton/man-made fibre textile mills) and 33 (including 19 cotton/man-made fibre textile mills). The cases of these mills registered with the BIFR are at various stages of enquiry, and further action in respect of these mills will be taken in the light of the findings of the BIFR.

The Government of India have so far identified 34 units all over the country as being eligible for relief under the textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS) which was established to provide relief to the eligible workers of eligible closed textile mills. However, no mill in the State of Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh has been so far identified as being eligible for receiving relief under the said scheme.

Permission to import Raw Materials Under EPCGS

4339. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has urged the Government to allow import of raw materials and consumables at concessional duty under the Export Promotion Capital Goods Schemes,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the present position of import of capital goods at concessional duty under Export-Import Policy (1992-97)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir.

The proposal of Confederation of Industry to allow import of raw materials consumables at concessional duties under EPCG Scheme is under examination in consultation with the concerned Administrative Ministries.

The present position under the Export and Import Policy (1992-97) is that import of capital goods and components are permitted to be imported under concessional duty 15% or zero Duty subject to specified conditions and fulfilment of export obligation. Details of the Scheme are given under Chapter VI of Export & Import Policy & Procedures 1992-97.

Court Management Project

4340. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh High Court is contemplating a court management project for speedy disposal of civil cases which have been pending with the courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to initiate such project in all the High Courts for speedy disposal of pending civil cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c) The information is being collecting and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shortage of Cotton

4341. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cotton mills functioning in Uttar Pradesh at present;

(b) whether the cotton mills in the State are facing difficulties in getting cotton;

(c) whether the rate of cotton are very high, and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) (a) 63 Cotton/man-made Fibre Textile Mills were functioning in the State of Uttar Pradesh as on 31.12.96.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) In the early part of the year the prices were lower compared to the previous year, while they are now marginally higher.

Production of Rubber

4342. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total production and requirement of rubber and raw rubber during each of the last three years in the country;